

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2116

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB DA US

SUBJ: NIELSEN ANNOUNCES ACCEPTANCE OF AFL-CIO INVITATION

REF: OSLO 0304

1) IN PRESS INTERVIEW DURING MEETING OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS AT ELSINORE, LO PRESIDENT THOMAS NIELSEN ANNOUNCED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION TO ATTEND THE AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING IN FEBRUARY. NIELSEN, ACCORDING TO A PRESS REPORT, SAID THAT HIS PARTICIPATION WAS AN EXPRESSION OF THE DANISH TRADE UNION MOVEMENT'S INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. FURTHERMORE, AS A MEMBER OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE ICFTU, HE HAS AN INTEREST IN DISCUSSING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH PRESIDENT MEANY.

2) NIELSEN SAID HE THOUGHT IT OF VALUE TO DISCUSS WITH MEANY THE QUESTION OF THE STATUS OF THE ILO, WHICH UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO HAD BEEN THE MOST EFFECTIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS' SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS. IF THE ILO IS TO REMAIN A SIMPLE DISCUSSION CLUB, THEN THE DANISH LABOR MOVEMENT, LIKE THE AFL-CIO, WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER WHETHER

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IT IS WORTHWHILE TO REMAIN A MEMBER, NIELSEN IS REPORTED

TO HAVE SAID.

3) COMMENT: IT IS A FACT THAT NIELSEN EARNESTLY WANTS
THE ILO TO RESUME ITS ROLE AS A SERIOUS BODY
CONCERNED WITH CONCRETE WORKER PROBLEMS. HE ASSUMES THAT
DURING HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES THE QUESTION OF
TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA WILL BE RAISED.
IF, HOWEVER, THERE ARE ANY OTHER ITEMS ON WHICH HE
SHOULD PREPARE HIMSELF PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FEBRUARY 15,
HE WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE ADVICE.
DEAN

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